



US005249653A

United States Patent [19][11] **Patent Number:** **5,249,653****King**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Oct. 5, 1993****[54] HAND LUGGAGE WITH INTELLIGENT OPENING FEATURE**[75] **Inventor:** **William L. King, Denver, Colo.**[73] **Assignee:** **Samsonite Corporation, Denver, Colo.**[21] **Appl. No.:** **946,047**[22] **Filed:** **Sep. 15, 1992****Related U.S. Application Data**

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 854,505, Mar. 19, 1992, abandoned.

[51] **Int. Cl.⁵** **A45C 3/02; A45C 13/00**[52] **U.S. Cl.** **190/109; 190/30; 190/111; 190/900; 190/901**[58] **Field of Search** **190/30, 109, 111, 112, 190/119, 900, 901****[56] References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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Attache cases and business cases in general typically have a portfolio section for organizing papers and a main packing section. Depending on the needs of the user, these portions can be selectively closed off. However, it's best that these sections are relatively accessible depending on whether the case is opened from the vertical position or whether the case is opened from the horizontal position. Accordingly, Applicant has provided a portfolio catch system which, depending on the orientation of the case, holds the portfolio in a closed position where the front of the portfolio is attached to the lid portion of the case, or in the alternative, if the case is opened from the vertical position, the panel is held to the base of the case, thus preventing the contents of the base from spilling and automatically permitting ready access to the contents of the portfolio. Also disclosed is a series of lid containers and base containers arrayed along the upper edge of the lid and base shells at the upper side of the case. These containers are readily accessible in all conditions of the case, and are especially accessible when the case is opened from the vertical position wherein access to the contents of the portfolio, as well as these lid and base containers, can be readily had.

12 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets